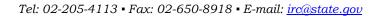
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Sports Strengthen Communities

Issue-in-Focus: June 25, 2012



In the United States, sports play a major role in community life. Players learn valuable lessons about discipline, teamwork and tolerance that help them succeed on and off the field. This issue of *eJournal USA* explores the integral role of sports in American society and highlights the power of sports to strengthen community bonds that transcend differences.

<u>Download the "Sports Strengthens Communities" in PDF format</u>
(3.21MB)

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THE BIG THINK

Sports in American Society

By Rick Telander, senior sportswriter for the Chicago Sun-Times
Playing sports helps Americans overcome differences and bond as individuals — player to player
— and as communities.

MY TAKE

From Outsider to Olympian

By Linda Miller, Olympic rower

With the help of mentors, family and community, Linda Miller transformed from a sports-shy child to a world-class athlete.

PROFILES OF AMERICAN SPORTSMANSHIP

Scout Bassett: Defying Odds, Redefining Ability

Paralympian Scout Bassett has overcome many barriers to success.

Fugees Family: Finding a Home on the Field

Jordan-born Luma Mufleh helps refugee children adjust to their new lives in the United States through soccer.

Oren Lyons: The Legacy of Lacrosse

Invented by the Iroquois tribes, lacrosse is a sport with a long history of bringing communities together.

<u>Ibtihaj Muhammad: Forging a New Frontier for Fencing</u>

Ibtihaj Muhammad wants all minority athletes to know they can achieve their dreams, regardless of race, religion or gender.

Jennifer Beltran: Serving the Community

A volleyball star gives back to the inner-city community that supported her.

PHOTO GALLERY

Playing It Forward: Sharing the Power of Sports

Top American athletes team up with sports enthusiasts in communities all over the world.

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